

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 00469 281238Z

51

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05

L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-01 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 OMB-01 /105 W

----- 063221

R 281201Z JAN 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 228

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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PASS AGRICULTURE AND STR

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJ: AGRICULTURE IN MTN

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 00469 281238Z

REFS: A. GENEVA 290. B. EC BRUSSELS 0637. C. GENEVA 0421

1. IN FURTHER CONVERSATIONS WITH COLMANT (GRENC GATT REPRESENTATIVE) (SEE REF A), THE LATTER SAID THAT FRANCE'S WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MTN WAS FROM THE BEGINNING PREDICATED ON THE IDEA THAT AGRICULTURE WOULD BE TREATED IN A SPECIAL WAY IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS. HE SAID THAT THE FRENCH POSITION ON THIS ISSUE WAS KNOWN TO THE U.S. AND THAT IN ONE OF THE NIXON-POMPIDOU MEETINGS, IT WAS AGREED THAT NEGOTIATIONS ON AGRICULTURE IN THE MTN WOULD BE SEPARATE BUT PARALLEL WITH THOSE ON OTHER PRODUCTS.

2. IN REPLY TO OUR REMARK THAT THE FRENCH POSITION WOULD RESULT IN DIFFERENT GATT RULES FOR INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE (E.G. DIFFERENT RULES ON COUNTERVAILING DUTIES, ACCESS TO SUPPLY, SAFE GUARDS), COLMANT SAID THAT THIS IS ALREADY THE CASE AND WOULD NOT LEAD TO INNOVATIONS.

3. COLMANT THEN EXPLAINED THAT THE FRENCH POSITION ON THIS ISSUE IS FRANKLY SPEAKING, DEFENSIVE. FRANCE IS DEEPLY CONCERNED WITH LOSING PART OF ITS ASSURED OUTLETS IN THE EEC IN CASE MORE LIBERAL ACCESS FOR THIRD COUNTRY FARM PRODUCTS WOULD RESULT FROM THE MTN. MOREOVER, FRANCE FEARS THAT CERTAIN MEMBER STATES, PARTICULARLY THE U.K. WOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE COMMUNITY'S WILLINGNESS TO LIBERALIZE IN ORDER TO DESTROY THE CAP.

4. WE ASKED COLMANT HOW IN VIEW OF THIS FRENCH POSITION THE OBJECTIVE OF THE TOKYO DECLARATION FOR EVER GREATER LIBERALIZATION OF WORLD TRADE IN AGRICULTURE COULD BE ACHIEVED. COLMANT REPLIED THAT WHILE THE COMMUNITY HAS REACHED SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN A NUMBER OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, IT CANNOT BECOME SELF-SUFFICIENT IN GRAINS BECAUSE ITS PRODUCTIVE POTENTIAL IN THIS FIELD IS LIMITED. HENCE, WITH GROWING INTERNAL DEMAND THERE WILL BE ALWAYS ROOM FOR ADDITIONAL IMPORTS OF GRAINS AND FEEDING STUFF FROM THIRD COUNTRIES.

5. WHEN WE POINTED OUT THAT RECENT DEVELOPMENTS SEEM TO INDICATE THAT THE COMMUNITY'S DEGREE OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN THE GRAIN SECTOR IS GROWING AND THAT VARIOUS LONG-TERM PROJECTIONS TEND TO INDICATE THAT EVEN AN ENLARGED COMMUNITY WILL BE SELF-SUFFICIENT IN GRAIN BY 1980. COLMANT INQUIRED WHETHER AN MTN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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PAGE 03 GENEVA 00469 281238Z

AGREEMENT BASED ON RATIOS OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY FOR GRAINS AND FEED STUFF WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE U.S. WE SAID THAT SUCH AN AGREEMENT WOULD NOT NECESSARILY ENTAIL BETTER ACCESS TO COMMUNITY MARKETS. HOWEVER WE WOULD HAVE TO KNOW THE SPECIFIC TERMS OF SUCH AN APPROACH BEFORE WE COULD CONSIDER ITS POSSIBLE MERITS.

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## Message Attributes

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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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